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Celebrating High School Grads: Special Section Inside



Tunes at the Music Room

Award-winning folk duo Quote the Raven performed Saturday at The Music Room in the heart of Haliburton Village. The group, Jordan Coaker and Kirsten Rodden-Clarke, played two sets in front of a packed house at Castle Antiques & Cafe. /ADAM FRISK Special to the Echo

Library improves its reach to the public

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Haliburton County Public Library has started to roll out new branding and signage.

Chris Stephenson, the library's CEO, told the Highlands East council July 11 that the new branding is designed to create cohesion throughout the system.

"So that when people walk in, they real-

ize that they're joining part of a library system and that there are many branches within that system," he said.

Part of that is more library promotion by way of posters and print materials, social media interaction, email newsletters, and avenues through local media.

The library has restructured to enable all library employees to better circulate throughout the branches.

"One of the advantages of this is that we share our expertise, especially through

programming and technology," Stephenson said.

"But it's also an opportunity for new staff to come back to the larger branches and have experience working alongside more senior colleagues."

A number of staff members have been hired and training is underway.

Stephenson said the library's print media now has a standardized font and makes use of icons to reduce barriers for people.

Staff are very proud of the library's new internet presence.

"It meets all of the standards for accessibility," Stephenson said, and added that the website has garnered attention from librarians from across Ontario.

Maureen Jennings, the British-Canadian author known for the Murdoch Mysteries series of novels, will be guest speaker at a Friends of the Library gala fundraiser in

see LIBRARY page 4

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Art on the Dock

George Hammond, who creates bread cabinets and useful wooden boxes, was busy working on his next wood and metal project at the ninth annual Art on the Dock that took place over the weekend where local artists showcased their work at Kennisis Lake. Artists from around the county displayed their work during the two-day event. /ADAM FRISK Special to the Echo



New mural for Hodgson

Cody Hodgson's friends and family gathered outside of the AJ LaRue Arena in Haliburton for the unveiling of his new mural, commissioned and funded by his family. Artist Annie Hamel was hard at work painting the mural on Wednesday, July 12. "It's an honour to be included on the wall with the other professional athletes from the area," Hodgson wrote to the Echo. "I'd like to thank the municipality and council to allow for the mural to be refreshed and paid for by my family, and thanks to Jim Blake for coordinating the process. The artist, Annie Hamel, did an amazing job depicting my story starting with playing hockey on the lake, playing for the Huskies, Team Canada, and my first NHL game. It meant a lot to my family, and especially to my Grandma Barbara." Pictured in photo from left are Chris Hodgson, Barbara Hodgson, Cody Hodgson, Marie Hodgson, and Annie Hamel. /David Zilstra Staff



Community bonds take shape

Places for People has officially launched Places for People Community Bonds; the first of its kind in our region. \$50,000 was provided by the Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC) as an investment into the Community Bonds via the Bond Investment Option Series B. There are three different series of investments available. This investment is another tool that will earn interest and allow HCDC to continue supporting loans and economic development activities in Haliburton County. From left, Max Ward, Fay Martin, Jody Curry, Patti Tallman, Don Critchley, Barb Bolin, Pat Kennedy, Andrew Hodgson. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff

'Loved by all who knew him'

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Editor

It's been 30 years since Ontario Provincial Police Constable Eric Nystedt's life ended tragically during a long-weekend shift, but he still lives vividly in the minds of those who knew him.

Most will never forget the heartwrenching early morning of July 3, 1993 when Nystedt was killed on duty by an intoxicated man near Kinmount.

"There are days that it seems like a lifetime ago, and other days it's still so fresh. I think of him everyday, and I'm grateful for the time we had together," said Nystedt's fiance at the time, Joanne Urban.

Mike and Deb Landry were close friends of Nystedt during his time in Haliburton County.

Mike, a fellow OPP officer, was Nystedt's partner on the road. The pair often attended calls together. They were the only constables on duty when Nystedt was killed.

"He's always on my mind, on a daily basis. Here we are 30 years later, and I just want everyone to remember him. He was just such a good guy," said Mike, with Deb adding, "The years go by, but that feeling never goes away. That feeling of him being gone feels just as fresh as it did 30 years ago."

Nystedt originally hailed from Sault Ste. Marie, and although the 24-year-old only lived in Haliburton County for less than three years, he certainly made his mark in the Highlands.

He quickly integrated himself into a normally tightly-woven community and became a smiling face recognizable to all.

"He was involved in so much in such a short time," Mike said.

Nystedt joined Sir Sam's Ski Patrol, a tennis club, a basketball program, a gym and was an avid biker. He always encouraged others to join him.

"I can't believe that he used to ride his bike up to the ski hill just so he could work out running up and down the hill on his days off. He'd always call me and ask if I wanted to go with him," Mike laughed.

Brian Plouffe remembers Nystedt fondly from playing tennis with him at the local club at the time.

"He was such a friendly, down to earth guy," Plouffe said.

Urban said Nystedt thrived in the Highlands.

"He loved Haliburton. He was very much an outdoors, active person. He loved sports. He loved to hike, run and mountain bike, and he loved to be by the water. The Minden detachment was a great fit for him when he was placed there," she said. "We would go to the grocery store, and he would always say hi to everyone. That was just who he was as a person. I think whether he was in Haliburton, Ottawa, or the Sault, that's just who he was."

He attended Carleton University and graduated with a bachelor's degree in psychology before attending school at the Ontario Police College to become an officer.

While at the Ontario Police College in 1990, Nystedt set a record for running the fastest 1.5 mile race. His record remained unbroken for over 20 years.

It was in Ottawa where Urban met Nystedt, "Like most couples did in those days, at the bar," Urban laughed.

The couple were together for five years before he was killed.

"He was hardworking, honest, and very loyal. He was a lot of fun and a really great friend to everyone around him," Urban said. "I can say all these wonderful things that people say about people when they're gone, but they're true. They were true then, before any of the events happened, and I'm sure they would've stood the test of time today."

As a kid, Nystedt loved to stay active. His passion for sports was instilled in him at a young age from doing activities with his parents and brother.



Ontario Provincial Police Constable Eric Nystedt worked out of the Minden detachment and was tragically killed on duty during the July long weekend of 1993. /Photo submitted

"We'd swim, play in the gym, climb ropes, and Eric played hockey, basketball, and baseball. We always went biking and hiking, and I taught them to ski," said Nystedt's mother, Mary-Lou Buerkle.

As an example of his honesty and generosity, she shared a story about 10-year-old Nystedt when he found a \$20 bill on the floor of a store. He gave it to the store owner, and was told that if nobody claimed the money in a week, he could keep it.

"Eric was very generous; I remember it was just before Christmas, and Eric bought his father, his brother and his mother a gift out of his \$20," Buerkle said.

In Sault Ste. Marie, the Eric Nystedt Park and Memorial Playground is named in his honour.

"When Eric passed away, people came into the OPP Police Station in Minden and donated \$14,000. This \$14,000 goes towards the Eric Nystedt Memorial Bursary Fund at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School," Buerkle said.

OPP memorials were held for Nystedt, and a large vis-

itation took place in the gym of Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

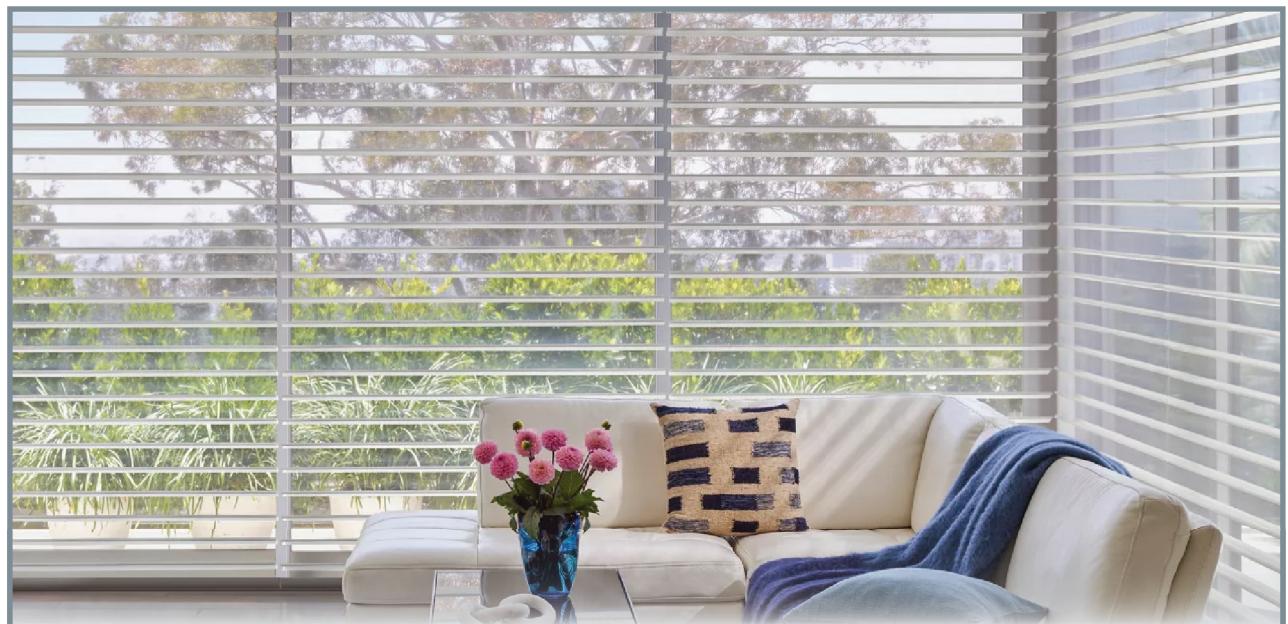
Mike and Deb said many who knew Eric from Haliburton made the eight hour drive to his memorial in Sault Ste. Marie.

The bridge that crosses the Gull River on Highway 35 is dedicated to the memory of Nystedt as well as Corporal James Smith and Detective Sergeant Lorne J. Chapitis who were killed in 1968.

Urban said she hopes those who knew Nystedt or not can still honour him by carrying on the legacy of his generosity.

"Be kind and help others, because that's who he was," she said.

"His gravestone says it best. It has an OPP emblem carved into it, a pair of running shoes, and a basketball. It says at the bottom, 'Loved by all who knew him,' and that is true. There wasn't a mean bone in his body. He believed in right and wrong, and was just so kind."



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Highlands East looks for more housing options

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Considering the possibility of allowing additional housing units on residential lots is probably long overdue, according to a Highlands East township planner.

Chris Jones, a municipal land use planner, said to council when it met July 11 that there's been much talk among residents about accessory structures that can be independent dwelling units compliant with the Ontario Building Code.

Jones said he's been working on the issue for about 15 years. And in that time he's noticed many changes to the issue.

He urged council to direct staff to prepare official plan and zoning bylaw amendments to allow an accessory dwelling unit in a dwelling unit or an accessory dwelling in a detached ancillary dwelling.

He said the first step would be for a municipality to allow the secondary units, and the second step would be for the provincial building code to regulate their construction.

"It's not just your standard basement apartment," Jones said. "We're talking about an actual detached, accessory dwelling unit. A separate building."

Gary Burtch, a local contractor, suggested to council during its June 13 meeting that property owners with large enough lots be permitted to build what's called a Granny Flat. Allowing a second dwelling on a property would help people to comfortably age at home, he said.

And he suggested the lot's second dwelling can also be offered as a starter home to a young family who would like to remain in Highlands East but can't afford a home in today's real estate market.

Then council received a letter dated July 4 from Peter Fredricks Monchuk, who participated on council's housing committee.

Monchuk said in his letter that it had been suggested that the committee lobby council to decrease the minimum size allowable for homes built on properties in Highlands East.

"In addition, the committee wanted to allow present homeowners with existing homes on their property the option of building a granny suite or a tiny house on the property," Monchuk wrote.

"To do this we suggested an increase in the building percentage from 10 per cent to 15 per cent to allow for such work to be done. This would, of course, be on a case-to-case basis to allow for compliance with existing building codes."

He said that would mean on a standard size half-acre lot in Highlands East, the building size could be up to 3,000-square-feet. At present, the maximum building size on a half-acre lot is 2,000-square-feet.

Jones offered "the Fonzie suite" from the television show Happy Days as an example of an accessory dwelling. The show's Arthur Fonzarelli character lived in an apartment atop the Cunningham family's garage.

"This is really sort of what we're talking about in terms of a form of housing that can be integrated or accommodated within what really is a North American landscape ... of single detached homes," Jones said.

The additional residential unit isn't a new concept. They've been defined over years to be semi-detached units, triplexes, accessory apartments, duplexes, and two-unit dwellings.

He said he believes recent changes to the municipal planning legislation are

attempts to move away from exclusionary zoning.

"That there's a zone only for detached homes and a zone only for semis and a zone only for apartments," Jones said.

The current direction establishes that any detached home can accommodate additional dwelling units. And that moves away from specific housing types and very specific zones, he said.

Starting in 2008, planning legislation has been evolving to accommodate accessory dwelling units.

Bill 23 states that no official plan or zoning bylaw shall prohibit two residential units in a house if an accessory building has on unit. Three residential units will be permitted if there are no residential units in an accessory building. And one residence is permitted in an accessory building if the house contains no more than two units.

Jones said Highlands East has a settlement area comprised of "parcels of urban residential land" as defined by Bill 23.

He said the majority of the lots in the township require private services and therefore don't meet the definition of a "parcel of urban residential land."

On this basis, Jones said, council has discretion on the regulation of accessory dwelling units.

"My basic takeaway here is that what Bill 23 is putting in front of rural municipalities is basically what I would call a discretionary call," he said. "It's not binding or absolutely requiring your planning documents and your regulations to accommodate the situation if you do not have parcels of urban residential land."

He said the township will use its discretion to say it's okay with the maximum four units on a lot.

The municipality has issued three permits for accessory dwelling units and two permits for tiny homes.

"At the time that this was being updated, I was sort of under the impression that maybe we were opening the door to some new opportunity and a bit of diversity in housing," Jones said.

"Those (permit) numbers certainly don't reflect that there was any sort of groundswell: Two tiny homes and three accessory apartments."

Mayor Dave Burton said he isn't "warm and fuzzy" about detached dwellings on shred lots.

"I guess I'm asking you to find a way that maybe we can do both," he said.

If you have a five-acre lot that you put second dwelling on, there's the argument of why not sever the lot, Burton said.

Library has recognizable presence

from page 1

October. It will be the first gala fundraiser since before the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We really value their (the Friends of the Library) help all year-round," he said.

The library's new courier van has been built and should be on its way to the county soon.

"This vehicle will improve the way in which we run programming across the system," he said. "But also provide a recognizable library presence as it passes through all of the communities in our counties."

That happens twice a week, he said, and deliveries and pickups are made at each branch.

David O'Brien, the library board's chairperson, said the county should be proud of all that the library's staff have

achieved.

Stephenson has been at the helm for almost two years, and O'Brien said so much has been accomplished in that time.

"And there are more things to come," O'Brien said.

He said the library's 50 or 60 policies are being reviewed with an eye toward whittling down the lot. And some of them haven't been updated in about 20 years.

"There's a sense of excitement around the library when I go into the branches, that there's something special happening to this library," O'Brien said.

There's an outreach to the community in the broadest sense, he said.

"So many improvements have been made to accommodate our county residents in many, many ways that weren't there before," he said.

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Emergency services are no longer available at the HHHS Minden site.

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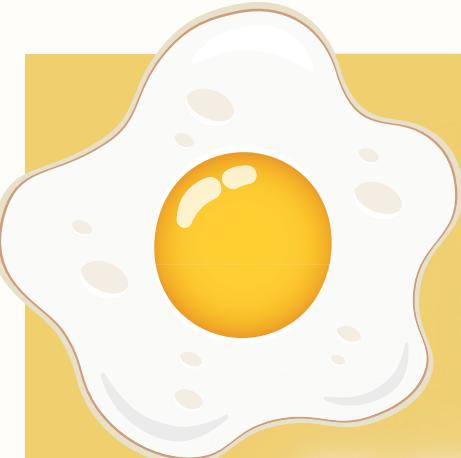
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Anyone needing emergency care can access services at the Haliburton site (7199 Gelert Road, Haliburton).

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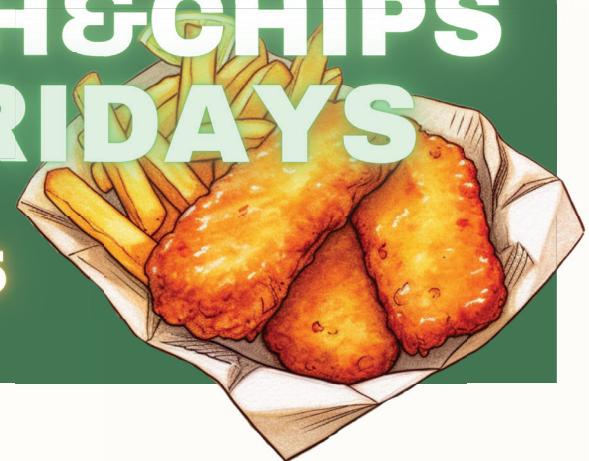
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Forever in our memories: Creighton Fair

A universal language

I'VE DEFINITELY written an editorial similar to this a few times. But music. Music just blows my mind every single day.

I think it's absolutely a universal language, and likely has been for tens of thousands of years.

It's such an intrinsic part of our lives, perhaps more than we realize. It's the closest we may ever come to real magic.

I'm listening to my July Spotify playlist as I write this.

I make a new one each month - an orchestra of songs melded into one symphony when I listen to them on shuffle.

That specific playlist feels like July.

It feels like thunderstorms, humidity, nights with friends, outdoor events, hot drives before the AC kicks in.

And my June playlist feels like June. And my May playlist feels like May.

Each remind me of that time of life - a little sound time capsule.

What amazes me most is the way music can instantly trigger different feelings. Next time you watch a movie, close your eyes.

You'll be able to tell what type of scene is happening based on the orchestral music alone.

And next time you feel slow or tired in the morning, put on some of your favourite music.

No matter how tired I am, a good song always makes me want to dance. I can't drink coffee because it makes me jittery, so I listen to music.

Speaking of orchestras, how incredible are those?

They're composed of nearly 100 individuals, each an expert at playing their specific instrument. I'm sure it would be amazing to hear just one of them play on their own, but to

hear all 100 play each intricate part of a composition, on time, together? That is magic. How extraordinary of humans to be able to do something like this.

I also used to get extremely anxious on flights. Before my last trip, I decided to invest in noise canceling headphones. I put on movie soundtracks that made me happy while taking off and landing, and guess what? My flight anxiety wasn't even there anymore.

Music a good way to take life a little less seriously, too.

My friends and I have been to the karaoke nights at Hook, Line, and Sinker a few times.

Nothing brings people together quite like loudly singing favourite songs, cheering others on, and dancing to the music. It's always such a fun time.

I just wrote a story about music in the Highlands and why there is so much of it this summer.

The bottom line was that everyone, whether

its musicians or spectators, want to celebrate.

And we all deserve to celebrate. We made it through three years of not getting to see each other.

We didn't get to experience music collectively for so long, and this summer is just a huge music festival across the entire county.

Live music can be found in every corner, nearly every day, for the next few months.

Local musicians and internationally known artists alike are booked at all kinds of venues in Haliburton County.

If you haven't yet, make sure you check out some live music events this summer to hear the magic for yourself.



vivian
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Editorial

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A female Black bear and cub walk home down the road.

by Tammy Nash

The Pink Beans

TUESDAYS ARE the best in our house.

It's market day and we always go, my mom and I. We both love the market, even in the rain.

We have an early dinner and do the Wordle. We do it as a team - my parents, Jim and I. We're pretty good at it, I must say.

And then we get ourselves set up for Canoe FM radio bingo. My friend bought us sheets in December and we've been playing ever since.

I have to admit, I had never played before. But now it is a tradition at our place. We laugh when they read out the names of the teams.

People are just so funny. We are the Pink Beans, named after a favourite family recipe. Pink Beans is a side dish my mom always makes to go with ribs.

It is made of a can of brown beans, some pickled beets, some chopped up pickles and a bit of mayonnaise. I have never seen the recipe written anywhere. It is passed on by the oral tradition, and we all think my mom invented it.

My friend and her mother are called Chips and Wine due to their love of them!

We've heard teams being announced who are playing from Toronto, Vancouver, Florida, Cuba and England. Kids and grandparents play together.

Some teams have bingo dinner parties and gather at homes and in various locations throughout the county. Every week, we have our phone set up to call in if we win.

Tales from
the great



lynda
shadbolt

Green meadow

So far we haven't needed it, but one of these days we will! We know it.

The volunteers at Canoe FM play fun music during the game and every week we make a video and send it to my sister who lives in Vancouver, and who joins us to play when she visits. We also send a video to our daughter in Kingston, and she also loves to play when she visits.

It is such a fun time, and it is amazing how we feel connected to the Canoe volunteers and the other teams as we play. We groan when the phone

rings in the background of the bingo caller, and we know we haven't won, and we always cheer for the winners. Even when it isn't us.

Since we've started playing, we've learned that Canoe FM donates a lot of money from the game into our county.

It only costs \$6 to play, and so much goodness goes out into our community. It is a win win win. If you want to join in for this Tuesday evening fun check out canoefm.com/bingo/.

You can buy sheets at many locations across the county and they are listed on the website. On a regular week you can win \$100 for one line, \$200 for two lines and \$500 for a full card. And on triple bingo nights you can win triple the amount.

This is another example of goodness in action in our county! The Pink Beans thank you! And when that night comes and we do win, just know we will be dancing and cheering at the top of our lungs!

points of view

Great moments in history

When I think of the great historical events of my time, I think of things like the Kennedy assassination, Beatlemania, Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech, Paul Henderson's famous goal, 9/11, the advent of the Internet and cellphones, Covid, the Middle East conflicts and so forth.

And now, we can add a truly historic event that happened last week.

I think you all know what I'm talking about. On July 11, a reputable on-line publication reported that Tessa Tookes, a contestant on Bachelor In Canada, made history after she proposed to Joey Kirchner. This made her the first woman to ever pop the question on any of the Bachelor franchises.

I confess, when this first happened I somehow missed it! And, no, I have not been hiding under a rock.

Fortunately, the writer of this important on-line article, who is obviously a observer of historical matters, was there to record the momentous event – which happened sometime in early July.

We all owe her a debt of gratitude. For without her diligent recording of this monumental moment, it would have been lost to posterity.

Now, however, after my grandkids learn about this in some future university-level history class and then ask me if I remember what I was doing

when Tessa proposed to Joey, I can tell them.

"I was not watching the show," I'll proudly say. "In fact, I had no idea that the show existed prior to this."

I think we should all take the time to think about this monumental moment in history and how Tessa's brave actions will affect the world going forward. Now, thanks to her, other female contestants on the Bachelor franchises will also be able to propose in front of the camera and I imagine dozens of viewers. They will one day name an historical era after this.

This is how the world moves forward.

Yet, I cannot help think I nearly missed it entirely. Had I not stumbled upon that article, I would have been completely in the dark about what is arguably one of the most important historic events of that minute.

In case you ever wondered, this is why online entertainment journalism is so vitally essential. Without that stellar reporting, historians might have one day forgotten that Tessa gave Joey a ring made of string for her proposal, which prompted Joey to get down on one knee, propose right back, and give her a much more expensive ring, while simultaneously wondering in the back of his mind if he could have got away with spending much less.

And because if this, I can envision a day when men propose with string rings too – and women decline their offers more frequently.

Still, I am troubled that I somehow did not witness this when it happened. This is unlike me as

I tend to be far more aware of history as it happens.

I guess I have probably been overwhelmed recently by all the on-line media sources out there and the critical stories like this they produce. I'm going to try to be a little more diligent though. I truly think it's important to be informed about history as it is being made.

Heck, if I don't pay attention, I'm going to miss it when humanity finally puts a man on the moon.



Loon Tales

steve
galea



pic of the past

This Sunday School picnic in 1919 was held on Grace Lake Beach near Wilberforce. Pictured were Mrs. Ez Ames and Mrs. John Holmes are sitting at far left. Mrs. Clara Schofield, Johnny Holmes, Frank Schofield, Reg Scholfield and Ethel Marshal (standing). Seated in the background, Mr. Frank Schofield. Seated to the right are Elsie Liscombe, Lottie Godfrey, an unknown boy, Doris Schofield, Phyllis Ames, Beatrice Tallman and Helen Richardson. /FILE

letters to the editor

Regarding the Echo page 1 July 11, lead news item:

To the Editor,

Likely most people living in or visiting Haliburton County are considerably upset, or will be, with the recent closure of Minden Hospital's ER and the feeling of being excluded from any consultative process to arrive at clearly understanding the current realities facing our health care providers. Thankfully, the Echo's news that an integrated plan to provide more effective local care, involving enhanced services of our paramedics being a key element, is certainly a very positive step in a good direction. Your article also mentions "HHHS is hoping to replace current imaging equipment from fund raising efforts by the Foundation." Given the feeling of being excluded in our community from decision-making, where will additional funds be raised?

A suggestion for consideration that may calm these troubled waters: If this current equipment - that was paid for by the generosity of many donors - is still in good condition, perhaps it could

be moved to Minden Hospital for a future re-opening of a more robustly equipped ER. If Haliburton County is projected to grow substantially in coming years, keeping both complementary health care locations open could be justified.

Like so many others, I and my family have received kindness and dedicated medical care from doctors and nurses in both Minden and Haliburton. We were aware of the deeply dedicated service organized mainly by the physicians of our Minden ER from the time of its establishment to keep it open and running. Their years of beyond words service to Haliburton County needs to be recognized by the "powers that be" who could, perhaps at the same time, re-establish Minden's ER with its current physical assets.

We need to settle this issue amicably and turn the page on it!

John Heginbottom
Minden Hills

Letters to the Editor note: Submissions are subject to editing for newspaper style and punctuation.



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to
vivian@haliburtonpress.com

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Graduates

Good evening everyone, and welcome to the graduation ceremony for Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, Class of 2023. I'd like to first off thank the Platform Party and the Graduation Steering Committee for making this day possible. Without them we wouldn't be here. As well I would like to extend my appreciation to the amazing teaching staff we have here at HHSS. They have been there with us throughout the craziness of the past four years: Online learning, school closures, mask mandates and the overall unpredictability of COVID. Through it all, they never gave in and provided us with a pretty fantastic and fulfilling high school experience. I would also like to express my gratitude to all the EA's, secretaries, custodians, bus-drivers and all the other people that have been working behind the scenes to make the last four years of our schooling possible.

Finally, I would like to give one big congratulations to all of you who walked across the stage today. You all have grown so much from the immature kids I once knew in middle school, into the amazing young people sitting here before me. Everyone of you should be super proud of the people you have become (yourselves) and I am honored to stand next to you as a member of the Hal Highs graduating class of 2023.

Time is a funny thing. It's the one

constant throughout our lives that can never be changed. No matter how many 11:11's, wishbones or shooting stars we wish upon, the past is set in stone. Due to this we are sometimes left with regrets. Whether it's the clothes we chose to wear for grade 9 picture day or the person we sat next to in shop class, everyone has at least one thing they wish they could go back and change. However, that's what makes life beautiful. Everything we do is final, forever a part of our legacy and who we are. Every decision, regrettable or not, has led us to where we are today.

As everything does, our High School journey had to start somewhere. And that somewhere was back in September of 2019. Walking through those doors for the first time, it was nerve racking. I didn't know what to expect. The only experience I had of highschool was through the sappy teen dramas my sister loves to watch. Filled with tons of highschool politics, jocks, nerds and swirlies, these movies painted high school in a bad light. However, this was not the case at all. As I nervously walked through those doors back in 2019, I was greeted with the smiling faces of students and teachers alike. I quickly reconnected with friends that I hadn't seen since the previous school year, and met many new people that quickly became like family to me. Walking through those doors, I instantly

felt at home in the halls of HHSS and any nerves or negative thoughts about highschool slipped from my mind.

It's safe to say that we didn't have a traditional highschool experience. Yes, I'm talking about the C-word. Covid. Covid has affected everyone, ever since its first introduction back in 2019. Not even done the first year of highschool and it looked like our highschool career had seemingly come to an end. Once Covid became widespread in Canada rumors of school closures started getting thrown around. Then in March of 2020 it became official, we were no longer attending school in person. This began what would be the next two years of an altered curriculum where we had online learning, octomesters, and stints of "regularity" as we navigated through the ever changing Covid restrictions. It was a challenging couple of years; however, I think it is fair to say that we have all come out of it stronger. We have proved ourselves capable of overcoming any challenge we might face. The perseverance, compassion, and resilience you all showed during these times were truly remarkable and goes to show each and everyone of you is much more capable than you can possibly imagine.

In life we often talk about normality. You should look like this, act like this, it needs to be done this way. But all of that

is a lie. There is no such thing as normal. Every individual is unique, they have their own dreams, passions and experiences. Each one of us walks a different path through life. This was exemplified during our time here at Hal High. As we moved through our years here, we all changed and grew. We came into grade 9 as rambunctious, snot-nosed kids who had no idea of who we were and what we wanted to be. But today we are leaving here as capable young people prepared for the future. Some of us will become doctors, lawyers, entrepreneurs, mechanics, musicians, athletes or any number of things. But no matter what we decide to do, my fellow graduates and I will go on to do amazing things.

It's crazy to think where we are today, our time here has flown by. We have done so much it was often overwhelming. Terry Fox runs, buy outs, fundraisers and the countless theme days. The amazing productions put on by the drama class, the seemingly random trips to Fleming College, or the sports banquet to honor our amazing athletes. There was never a dull moment, there was always something going on and something to look forward to.

I would like to talk a little about my experience here at Hal High. My experience here was quite unique. Often people will find their interests early on, whether



Allaire, Ava



Bacon, Riley



Barry, Hunter



Bascevan, Jesse



Billings, Chloe



Boermans, Riley



Boisvert, Broden



Bowker, Spencer



Brannigan, Kaine



Brown, Destiny

Congratulations Graduates 2023!



We wish you all the best today, and the best of luck in every future endeavor!

- Mike & Tanya Boisvert



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Class of 2023

they fall in love with the beauty of art, the grease and dust filled environment of the tech classes, or the challenging, brain wrenching nature of the math and science courses. I, however, never found that lane. Because of this I got to experience a majority of what this school has to offer. I was there in Mr Klose's class during his lessons on gravity, trying like everyone else to look as if I had any clue what he was talking about. I was there for the bus rides to soccer where we would scream Taylor Swift at the top of our lungs. I was there in Mr Collins class for the dramatic readings of Romeo and Juliet. I was there in the tech classes where one second I'm

baking a cake and the next I'm under a car doing a brake replacement. I've done it all. It didn't matter whether I was in Mr Klose's physics class, Mr Collins' English class or Ms Searle's Baking class, I was able to interact with people who had a passion and love for what they were doing. Each one of you is amazingly talented and I've learned so much from you all. I couldn't have asked for a better group of people to grow up with.

Highschool was a time of many firsts. Many of us met each other here, some of us had our first girlfriend or boyfriend, had our first kiss, and you can imagine where it went from there. First dances,

first parties, and first jobs, we experienced countless first during our time here. However, this ceremony signifies the end of that chapter of our lives. As we stepped onto the stage today our time here at HHSS had officially come to an end. However, as we walked down the steps on the other side it marked the beginning of the rest of our lives. They were our first steps into the real world, our first steps towards an infinite number of firsts waiting for us.

Thank you all for being here and for listening. I would like to thank all of you for the sacrifices you made. The patience, love and support you have

given us through the years. We would not be where we are today without you. I can only hope that we've made you all proud and I ask for your continued support as we move on to the next chapter of our lives. Before I end, I want to give one final congratulations to the graduates here today. You all worked extremely hard and deserve everything this world has to offer. Everyone have a great night and once again, thank you.

Valedictorian Matthew Wilson



Campbell, Rory



Chartrand, Ethan



Chaulk, Landon



Chumbley, Kelly



Clarke, Travis



Code, Georgia



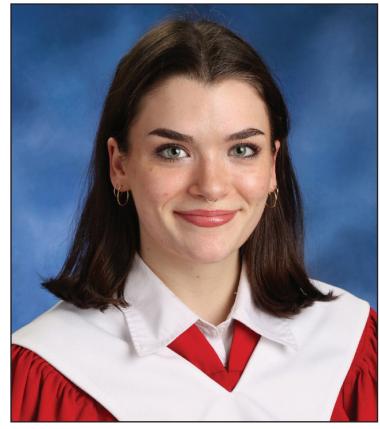
Comrie, Khurt



Cooney, Riley



Deterling, Owen



Devolin, Molly



Donaldson, Isaiah



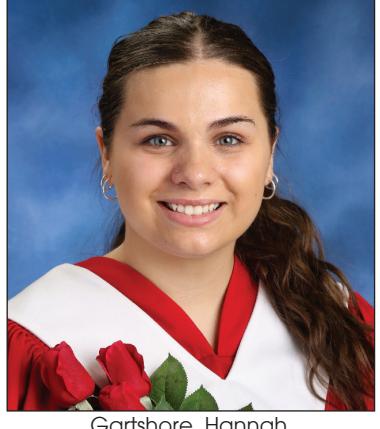
Dumas-Stephenson, Anthony



Dykstra, Abby



Gallant, Liah



Gartshore, Hannah

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Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Graduates



Gizuk, Karlee



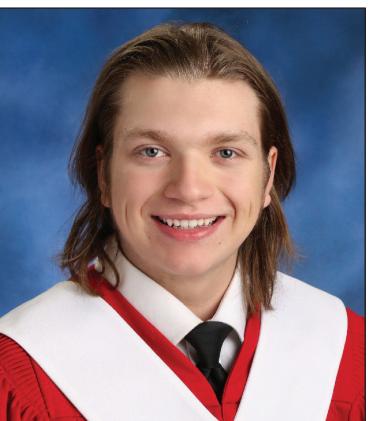
Gmuzdek, Jack



Grooms, Brayden



Hall, Kyan



Harnum, Caden



Harrison, Marcus



Horner, Avery



Howe, Stephen



Hutchinson, Gage



Jones, Mya



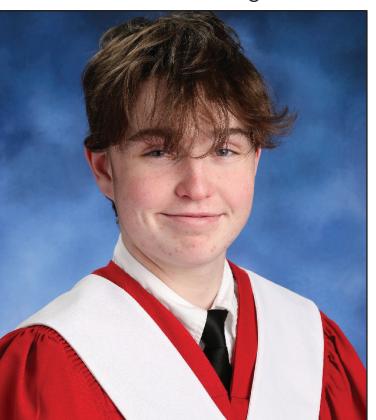
Keller, Aiden



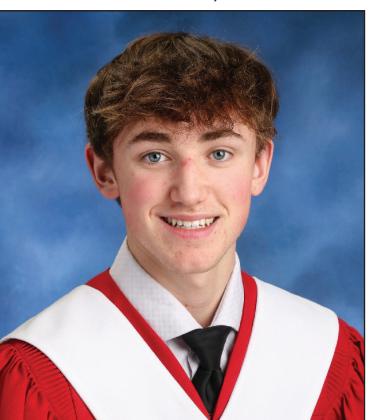
Ladesic, Rylee



Lafleur, Jocelyne



Lee, Mathias



Lloyd, Cooper



Long, Nicole



Longo, Sophie



Lopez, Roger



Lovell, Parker



Mallott-Carl, Ella

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McCready-DeBruin, Michaela



McCutcheon, Tathan



Miller, Jacob



Mylan-Goulet, Andre



Nesbitt, Walker



Newell, Owen



Nicholls, Owen



O'Malley, Rio



Parker-Wilson, Mark



Pereira, Kaleb



Petric, Colleen



Pettipas-Elkins, Tristin



Prentice, Brody



Rideout, Ravyn



Rivers, Ryeann



Robertson, Victoria



Robinson, Adam



Rosik, Abby

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Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Graduates



Samson, Levi



Sidsworth, Brooklyn



Simpson, Rilyn



Smith, Calvin



Smith, Keira



Stamp, Ella



Suranyi, Zita



Switzer, Kayla



Upton, Zander



Walker, Carrie



Walker, Jack



Walker, Trinity



Wilson, Emmerson



Wilson, Matthew



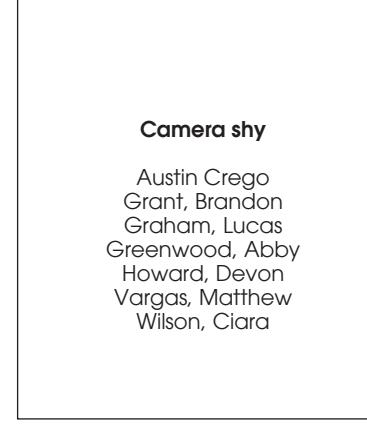
Wingell, Lucas



Yates, Noa



Zagorsky, Ivan



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Before I get started I want to thank a few people; first, our Graduation Committee and Scholarship Committee for all the behind the scene hours you put into planning and preparing for graduation! Thank you to the amazing HHSS staff who stepped up and volunteered their time to help out as you always do. I also want to recognize our wonderful office staff: Suzanne Smith, Jen Korpela and Stephanie Armstrong who do everything and keep us all organized! Thank you to our custodial team for setting everything up and being there for all of our needs. Without all of you, this celebration would not be possible.

Even though this has already been done, I need to thank the generous organizations, businesses and individual donors who have, yet again, raised the bar with their acts of kindness. Haliburton County has been extremely generous in their donations to help us recognize the accomplishments of our graduates and to assist them in pursuing their post-secondary dreams and other future pursuits. On behalf of the graduates, staff and family, Thank you very much.

Finally, thank you to everyone here tonight attending our ceremony to celebrate the outstanding accomplishments of all of the graduates of 2023.

Ok, and now to our graduates.

You made it! Congratulations! This is one of the first big accomplishments that you have earned in your life. Be proud of the work and effort that you put into getting yourself here. "Congratulations" and "you made it" isn't just for the graduates. It also goes to your parents, guardians, families, friends, community members, and our HHSS staff; anyone that called to get you out of bed in the morning, or made you go to class even when you wanted to skip or someone who texted you to remind you of the test you had the next day and anyone else that helped our grads reach this milestone. This night is about you too! It takes a village and we have a great one here. Without these people surrounding our graduates this journey would have been a lot harder... so grads, don't forget to thank the people who have helped get

you here today!

As I was thinking about what I would say tonight and all the things you have been through that have lead you to this moment, the word "Journey" kept coming into my mind. As Mr. Gage mentioned already, It's been about a 14 year long journey in school and for some it was smooth sailing, for others it was a pretty bumpy road (or most of you probably a little of both). Along the way you have had many joys, successes, let downs, excitement, (oh and there was a pandemic mixed in there), friendships have come and gone. Some of you even had me as your grade 4 and 7 teacher and then I followed you to high school! All of your experiences have shaped you into who you are now...and as we send you on your way I want to share some life lessons from HHSS that I hope you will take with you. Obviously we also hope you remember some of the things we taught you in your classes as well as all the learning skills that will help you in life, but there are other important life lessons that we will send you off with that I hope will continue to help you along the rest of your life's journey.

From your Math classes... There are many ways to get to the right answer and the STEPS are important! Apparently sometimes in Mrs. Klose's class you have learned that when faced with a big problem, you might panic first but then do some "function" YOGA * $y = x^2$ is like this [strike YOGA Pose])*(I am sure none of you will forget your functions now!)

In Art, as with life, there are many possibilities of how the final product will look and sometimes along the way the composition can get a little messy, but remember, it's a work in progress and if you're not happy with the way it's going don't be afraid to make adjustments!

Our Guidance Department and Student Success Team have been a great support over the years for you. The life lesson here is that even though you now don't have a "Guidance Department" to go to, remember that it's ok to ask for help and seek out guidance. It shows a great amount of strength to reach out for support when you

need it and surround yourself with people that will help you be successful!

From Science Class; remember that you need to go through ALL the steps to get to the solution... it's the steps and the process (in science & in life) that really "MATTER"... and if you throw in some puns along the way it makes it a lot more entertaining (that "matter" was for you Mr. Klose)

From Geography: There is a huge beautiful world out there, be kind to it and do things to make a difference. If you get lost along the way go back to the map or the compass that guides you to find your way again.

In all those Technology Classes you made amazing creations throughout the years, you learned it's the imperfections in the wood or the little details that you add that make things much more interesting... don't forget about the little details, they make a big difference! And as Mr. Simpson says "Pitter Patter, Folks. Let's get at 'er".

Some of you learned to play the Guitar in class, or maybe another new skill throughout your high school journey. What I hope you take from that is that learning a new skill is difficult, but practice leads to (maybe) not perfect, but better and better each time, and everything is always better when you find that right song!

Next, is all the performances and plays many of you were a part of. I hope that being a part of Drama has taught you that you will mess up and forget your lines (or what you're doing), but sometimes it's only you that notices, so move on, adapt and the show must go on!

Phy-ed is another important class that has taught us so much. Don't forget to get active, get outside, be safe and take care of yourself... there is only one you and you are important!

From there we will go to our History classes. Please remember that we learn from our past experiences and the experiences of others and as Maya Angelou said "when we know better, we do better". And from Mr. Longo (another famous person that you might know) "As they say in the Blairhampton, BUCKLE UP!" (I'm not

sure if that has to do with history or just one of the many great things we learn from Mr. Longo - but it's good advice all the same!)

From Law class... really it all boils down to follow the rules and if you don't there will be consequences! Having a really great argument and closing statement might help you get what you want!

In the English classes, you will remember that there is more to words and language than text messaging and snap chat, and whatever other social media platform I don't know about yet. So please, find time to put the devices down and find a great book because really the book is always better than the movie!

Bonjour, mes amis! Learning a different language, like in your French classes, has taught many lessons. Madam Borgdorff wants to make sure you remember to use your own french knowledge, no translators! So basically the life lesson there... don't let a computer or someone else do something for you that you can do, because the meaning will get lost in translation!

And lastly, as Mrs Searle says in Hospitality and Foods classes, sometimes in recipes (and in life) you need to "Chef it Up" and add your own flavor to what you are doing to make it better!

Finally from me: You will make many mistakes and come across things that don't go your way, but my hope is that you have learned to own your actions, learn from them, accept any consequences and then move on... and always lead with kindness!

You all possess amazing qualities and I am lucky that I have had the privilege to be a small part of your journey. Your values, skills, and goals will change along the way, but hold onto the lessons that are important to you and take them with you! As we send you on to the rest of your life journey, "Don't stop believing, hold on to that feeling" (don't worry I'm not going to sing this year!)

Congratulations Graduates, I am so proud of you!

Jennifer Mills, HHSS Principal

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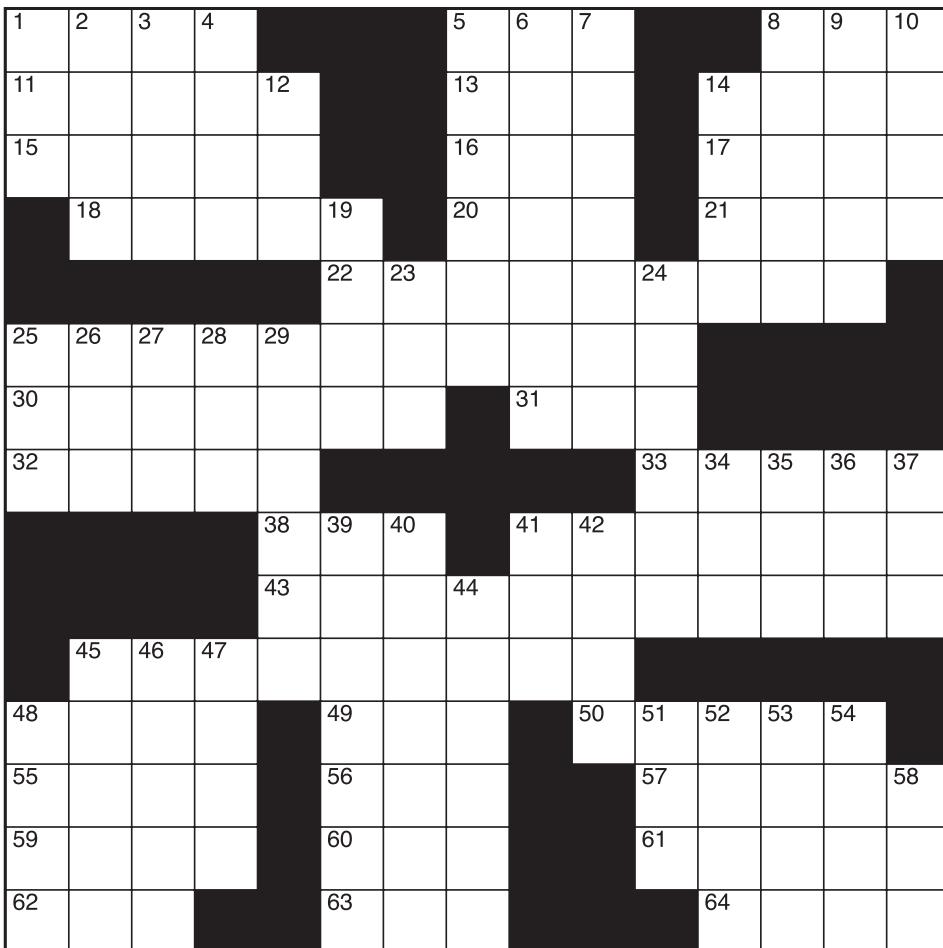
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CLUES ACROSS

- Civil rights organization
- Calendar month (abbr.)
- Monetary unit of Burma
- Twyla ___, US dancer
- Everything included
- "Antman" actor Rudd
- Italian city
- Nowhere to be found
- Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
- Turkish officer
- Perform on stage
- Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
- Canadian coastal provinces
- Furnishes anew
- Edible mollusk
- No seats available
- Garden figurine
- Two-legged support
- Rest here please (abbr.)
- In a silly way
- One from the Golden State
- Photographers
- Native religion in parts of China
- Dickens character
- Brodway actress Daisy
- Ancient Greek sophist
- Undivided
- Daniel ___, French composer
- Nocturnal S. American rodent
- Rusty
- Jewish spiritual leader
- Patti Hearst's captors
- Popular global holiday (abbr.)
- Tall, slender plant

CLUES DOWN

- Defunct US energy company

- Fellow
- It's issued from volcanoes
- Type of acid
- Winged nut
- Arouses
- Things are served on it
- San Diego ballplayer
- Currency and a Chinese dynasty
- __ mater, one's school
- Exclamation that denotes disgust
- Hairstyle
- Supreme ancient Egyptian god
- They __
- Connecting line on a map
- Mock
- One point north of due east
- Chinese philosophical principle
- Type of tree
- Persuade to do something
- A place for travelers to rest
- National Gallery of Art designer
- Panamanian province
- Field force unit (abbr.)
- Whalers' tool
- Simply
- Nigerian City
- Not one
- Obstruct
- Political plot
- Manila hemp plant
- Dough made from corn flour
- Fishes by letting the bob fly
- Swiss river
- Plant that makes gum
- A French abbot
- One point east of northeast
- Get free of

Answers on page 15

Wanted: billets for the Huskies

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Staff Reporter

The Haliburton County Huskies hockey team has been shooting pucks in the area since 2021. Their games fill up the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena, and their merchandise is worn proudly by locals and visitors alike.

But this is the first year that they may not have anywhere to live. "We've never had this problem before," said head coach Ryan Ramsay, "we're in trouble."

The team is composed of 25 players, who range in age from late teens to early 20s. Ramsay noted that some billets host one or two players, so they often seek about 15 billets. They are at less than half of that right now, and the players are arriving on August 17.

"We have many families who are returning for a second or third year of billeting," said Jess Jackson, the billet coordinator for the team, "but the few who aren't returning are because the player is not coming back to the community, and they got attached to that player. Or, they are seeking a lifestyle change based on health or their living situation."

Ramsay said that the Huskies players follow a fairly strict schedule. They are training every day of the week from approximately 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. They play home games on Saturdays, and one away game on either the Friday or the Sunday, with one day off a week. "90

per cent of our team is from the GTA," said Ramsay, "so usually on that day off, many of the guys just go back home." He noted that all players get 10 days off over the Christmas break to head home as well.

Billets are responsible for providing the player with a bedroom, and one meal at dinner time each day. "We don't expect a feast or anything like that," laughed Ramsay, "but in a way, they are a part of your family."

Billets are never responsible for any driving, or providing meals apart from dinner. Players have a strict curfew of 10 p.m. to ensure they are in shape for the coming games.

In exchange for offering their homes, billets receive two assigned season tickets, \$550 per month, and two butcher boxes throughout the season to provide food for the family, and the player.

Ramsay noted that they would prefer billets that are 20 to 30 minutes away from the Minden arena to cut down on travel time, if possible.

Jackson reiterated the concern Ramsay had about not finding enough billets for the season. "The goal is for us to have too many billets," she said, noting that this is the first year they are coming up short. "It really is such a positive experience," she said, "and it's such a valuable piece of our team."

If you are interested in billeting for the Huskies 2023-2024 season, contact Jess Jackson at 705-457-0900 or email huskiehousing@hotmail.com.

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Thrill-Seeking and skill-seeking in the Highlands

CHRISTINE CARR

Staff Reporter

"Are you a thrill seeker or a skill seeker?" is the question posed by Craig Bowker, owner of Ski-Mazing WaterSports and Sky-Mazing Parasailing.

Bowker showcased all of the experiences offered at their location at Red Umbrella Inn on 12 Mile Lake on a sunny Friday morning, demonstrating everything from water skiing and tubing to parasailing and flyboarding. Celebrating their 20th Anniversary in the Haliburton Highlands, Bowker's business offers experiences for both groups, proving you can have it all in the Highlands.

Offering activities such as day camps, private lessons, and watersports, Ski-Mazing has a dedicated clientele that comes back year after year. Thirteen-year-old Harrison Byrnes, from Stouffville, is a repeat customer. Learning to wakeboard last year, he had a lesson with water skiing, and fell in love.

This year he returned for private waterski lessons. When asked why he enjoys them so much, he stated "I feel free in the water. There's no worries." His Mom, Mary Byrnes, explained that they have tried a lot of places and lessons, but the one-on-one instruction with Craig "made the biggest impact." He "taught them the tips and tricks to make it easier, and it makes a world of difference."

Harrison's goal was to learn to Slalom ski by the end of summer, but Craig had him doing it by the end of the first lesson. Byrnes described how Harrison's "confidence went boom, boom, boom" as he worked with Craig. "Craig takes one look and he knows. That's what we love about him ... Craig nails the instruction." This could be seen as Craig complimented Harrison's form, and the 13-year-old replied, "I just listened to what you said."

"One thing we do that I think a lot of families or parents enjoy is our kid's camp program. It's a day camp that basically means you can indulge yourself in every water sport imaginable." With two boats, the day camps can host up to ten kids a week from ages five to fifteen of any level. Bowker joked how the camp teaches the students skills and also buys the parents "the quiet time they are looking for."

Bowker started the business in 2003. After living in British Columbia and working at a water ski school in Kelowna, he knew it was his passion and thought "I think I can make a business out of this". Recognizing the ideal location of the Highlands, his main drive was "basin it on skill improvement and having fun and just getting better at what you do."

A year after starting the business out of his cottage, Wigamog Inn asked him to bid on operating their waterfront, where he stayed for approximately eight years, expanding from a ski school to include jet ski rentals, tubing, and banana boating. Bringing parasailing into the mix, and adding weekly ski shows, he continued to grow his business at Wigamog. He would do "pyramids and costumed acts, barefooting ... all the things you would expect to see at a ski show."

After Wigamog closed, he moved across the lake to Bonnie View, enjoying that location for the next twelve years. When discussing what prompted the move from Bonnie View to his new location at Red Umbrella Inn,



Participants were all smiles before taking off into the air while parasailing with Ski-Mazing. /CHRISTINE CARR Staff

Bowker highlighted his excellent relationship with the current Red Umbrella resort owner, describing the lake chain of Twelve Mile, Boshkung, and Little Boshkung as the "epicentre of water sports in Haliburton County."

The reception over the last twenty years has been very positive. "We have tried to operate professionally and responsibly ... and with an environmental conscience. All of our people who work here are certified instructors ... they are first aid ... licensed and fully insured". Bowker believes his professionalism has contributed to his company's success over the last twenty years. Having specialized equipment such as training booms on the boats to help teach the skills necessary and keeping the equipment in pristine condition is important to Bowker.

"I have been at this twenty years. I'm 56 and a lot of people look at me like, 'Are you going to be driving a ski boat or parasailing boat when you're 65?' Who knows! This business really keeps me young." Bowker stated: "I do all the crazy stuff that all the kids do. In fact, I inspire it." Pondering the future, Bowker doesn't see an end to what he loves doing.

A family business, Bowker's son Spencer has been working with his father for the last few years, starting when he was twelve. "[Spencer] ran a business that I started for him, called Dockie Dee. I bought a pontoon boat and outfitted it with ice cream freezers and a generator, and he drove around dock to dock on the lake sys-



Harrison Byrnes slalom skis during a lesson with Ski-Mazing Watersports School.

tem selling ice cream."

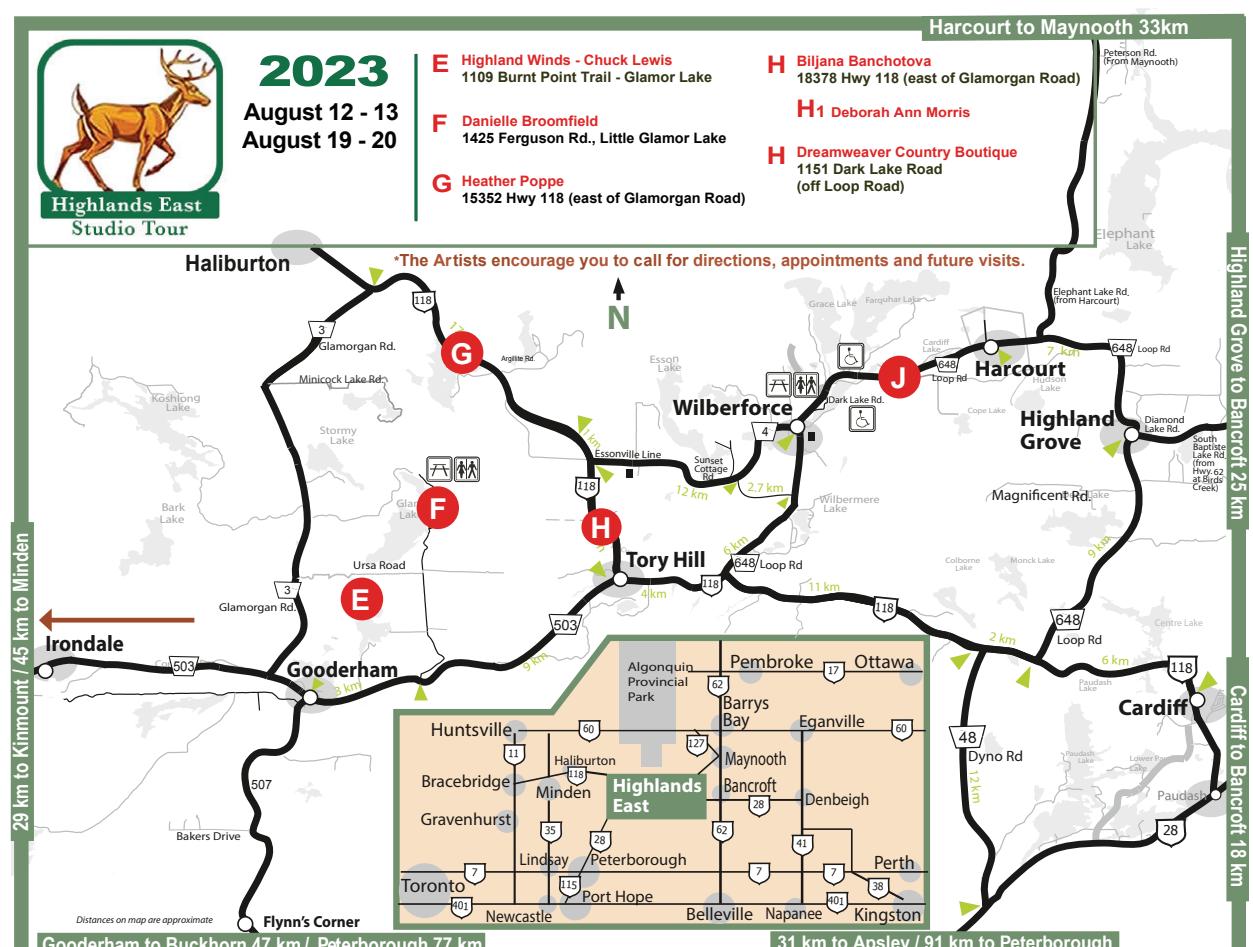
Starting himself at five years old, and teaching his sons at three, Bowker described how his activities are for all ages. A few years ago Bowker added flyboarding to the ever growing list, and has had "eight-year olds get up on the flyboard and 68-year olds get on the flyboard." For parasailing, he has had "two year olds and 92 year olds go up."

"It's about what drives you—if you are a thrill-seeker or a skill-seeker. Our moniker is skills or thrills. There is a skill side to our business, where you are developing your skills, and there is the thrill side. The thrill side is the parasailing and the flyboarding."

Bowker believes in promoting Haliburton as "the place to go if you want to have a great destination experience." Starting the Adventure Haliburton Group in 2009, a not-for-profit marketing collaborative, the group "promotes all the outdoor adventure experiences here for people to enjoy." A number of businesses collaborate on this initiative, including the Haliburton Forest and Sir Sam's Ski Hill.

"The more all of us as individual businesses promote tourism here the more our economy grows ... and the more infrastructure we see come in." Employing nine people currently, many of whom, like himself, grew up as cottage kids who now want an excuse to stay in the Highlands over the summer. In the last twenty years, he has employed "over a hundred summer students."

Twenty years after starting his company, Bowker sees positive things ahead, and still displays a clear love for what he does. To learn more visit their website at www.ski-mazing.com or email info@ski-mazing.com.



Changes brewing with Nectr Kombucha

Founder of Nectr Kombucha, Luc Esson, right, speaks with Tracie Bertrand, manager of Tourism Haliburton County, during the launch of the company's rebrand. /CHRISTINE CARR Staff



CHRISTINE CARR

Staff Reporter

“

We're all about health and wellness and want our brand to align with that.

— Luc Esson, founder of Nectr Kombucha

Something new is brewing in the Highlands as local kombucha company Luc's Brew takes on the new name and look of Nectr Kombucha.

The new brand was unveiled at a launch party on July 11 at Castle Antiques, as guests tasted new and old kombucha flavours paired with tasty treats provided by Castle Antiques.

When speaking of the reason for the shift, Luc Esson, founder of Nectr Kombucha Company, detailed how "when I think of nectar, I think of this gift of nature" and how kombucha itself is a gift from nature, "with the living cultures fermented through it." Esson's passion for the product was clear as he pointed out a bee that flew into their marketing images, proving nature has given its approval.

Business partner Becca Anderson explained her love for the company and the inspiration it brings seeing it grow and prosper. She said, "Nectr is really special because the team prioritizes the quality of its product and ingredients first. I don't think I've ever seen a kombucha leave the brewery without the founder tasting it first."

Involved with the company since its inception, she detailed why it is important to her, stating, "I love their kombucha because it's made with clean and organic ingredients, and it's the best tasting kombucha I've ever had."

At the launch, Esson detailed how he spent the first three years of the business focusing on perfecting the product itself and now he wants to improve the overall brand and brand experience.

"It is the time to really push this and grow it ... and really put some energy into the branding and how it looks and feels to the customer. We're all about health and wellness and want our brand to align with that."

According to Nectr Kombucha Co., the rebrand includes "a new name, visual identity, and a renewed commitment to fostering deeper connections with our valued customers."

Inspired by his own health journey, Esson started the company in March of 2020 and began brewing kombucha for fun after learning of the health benefits of drinking probiotics. After suffering for most of his life with severe allergies and gut problems, he began studying the impact of gut health on overall wellbeing and learned about the improvement that can be brought by consuming fermented foods. That's when he found kombucha and fell in love.

After developing his own version and sharing it with his friends and family, he was inspired to buy some glass bottles, create labels, and drive to four local spots to sell his product. In describing his journey starting the company, he stated how he walked in and said, "Hi, my name is Luc, I've got these bottles of kombucha if you want to sell them." According to Esson, it "just went from there."

When asked what the future holds for Nectr Kombucha, Luc explained that he wants to "focus on supporting local events and initiatives and...being a sponsor for local events and festivals." He is excited to focus on growing as a company, getting the product to more stores and customers, and creating collaborations with local brands that have "the same initiative and the same mission to support people in their health and wellness journey."

Ashley McAllister, director of Abbey

Gardens, was one of the earliest adopters of then-named Luc's Brew. She described how rewarding it has been to see Nectr Kombucha's journey. The goal of the Food Hub at Abbey Gardens is to "promote local economic development by carrying products that are sourced from farmers, growers, and producers in the area, who tend to be small start ups and individuals," such as Nectr Kombucha. She described how, because of that, "it is always inspiring to see them succeed."

Esson is confident about the company's success as Nectr focuses on "using only fresh, organic and local ingredients." They source all of their berries from a farm in Ontario and have used the past few years to refine their brewing technique. Esson explained they have a "special brewing technique that is a lot different from other brands; that gives [them] signature flavour and lean crispness."

Nectr Kombucha Co. is proud of kombucha's health benefits and hopes to emphasize that connection through their new branding. Their fonts, design, and colourful green branding were all chosen to showcase the company's connection to healthy living, said Esson.

According to their press briefing, Nectr Kombucha Co. has outlined its rebranding philosophy with three pillars: authenticity and transparency, customer engagement, and community building. Esson believes in establishing a genuine connection with their customers and fostering a sense of belonging, "encouraging members to share their stories, experiences, and wellness journeys" with the aim of building a community that inspires and uplifts one another.

Esson said, "Our focus is on creating an inclusive and empowering environment for our customers, where they feel valued, supported, and inspired on their path to health and well-being. We are excited to bolster our community with a deeper and richer experience through our reimagined Nectr brand."

Nectr Kombucha can currently be found throughout the Highlands, Muskoka, and in Toronto. In the Haliburton Highlands it can be found in businesses such as Castle Antiques, Abbey Gardens, Haliburton Highlands Brewery, as well as local grocery stores such as Foodland. Nectr can also be found throughout Muskoka, in towns such as Port Carling, Huntsville, Bracebridge, and Midland. They are currently expanding into Toronto, working with Village Juicery in five of their locations throughout the GTA. They have also had meetings with large grocery chains in Toronto and are working on expanding into the broader GTA area.

To learn more about Nectr Kombucha Co., you can email infoc@nectrkombucha.ca or follow them on social media @nectrkombucha. You can also visit their website at www.nectrkombucha.com.



**Form 6
SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER
Municipal Act, 2001
Ontario Regulation 181/03, Municipal Tax Sale Rules**

SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER

**THE CORPORATION OF THE UNITED TOWNSHIPS OF DYSART, DUDLEY, HARCOURT,
GUILFORD, HARBURN, BRUTON, HAVELOCK, EYRE AND CLYDE**

Take Notice that tenders are invited for the purchase of the land described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on August 17, 2023, at the Dysart et al Municipal Office, 135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton Ontario.

The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day as soon as possible after 3:00 p.m. at the Dysart et al Municipal Office, 135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton.

Submitted tenders will be opened virtually by Zoom. Register in advance for this meeting using the link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_yYEDvI8SwuGEVQTh0_XQ

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is \$27,000

Minimum tender amount: \$8,139.25

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit of at least 20 per cent of the tender amount, which deposit shall be made by way of a certified cheque/bank draft/ money order payable to the municipality.

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to or any other matters relating to the land to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers. The assessed value, according to the last returned assessment roll, may or may not be representative of the current market value of the property.

Pursuant to the Prohibition on the Purchase of Residential Property by Non-Canadians Act, S.C. 2022, c. 10, s. 235 (the "Act"), effective January 1, 2023, it is prohibited for a non-Canadian to purchase, directly or indirectly, any residential property, as those terms are defined in the legislation. Contraventions of the Act are punishable by a fine, and offending purchasers may be ordered to sell the residential property.

The municipality assumes no responsibility whatsoever for ensuring bidders/tenderers comply with the Act, and makes no representations regarding same. Prospective bidders/tenderers are solely responsible for ensuring compliance with the Act and are advised to seek legal advice before participating in this sale.

Transfers of properties that contain at least one and not more than six single family residences and are transferred to non-residents of Canada or foreign entities, are subject to the Province's Non-Resident Speculation Tax (NRST).

This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes and any taxes that may be applicable, such as a land transfer tax and HST.

The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser.

A copy of the prescribed form of tender is available on the website of the Government of Ontario Central Forms Repository under the listing for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

For further information regarding this sale and a copy of the prescribed form, contact:

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HE defers climate group appointment

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Municipalities are on the front-lines of climate change response.

As such, Highlands East council heard when it met July 11 the benefits that more resilient communities can bring to community health and well-being. Building community resilience leads to job creation, improves biodiversity, reduces energy costs, and staves off long-term costs from climate impacts.

Those are what's called co-benefits of climate action, said Kory McKay, Haliburton County's climate change coordinator.

The county adopted its Community Climate Action Plan in June.

The action plan outlines how local greenhouse gas emissions can be curbed and resilience to more extreme weather can be achieved.

The plan outlines six strategies with corresponding actions.

Strategy 1 is to shift away from the personal vehicle.

Strategy 2 is to switch to zero-emission vehicles.

Strategy 3 calls for homes, cottages and buildings to be retrofitted to become more energy efficient.

Strategy 4 encourages low-carbon development.

Strategy 5 involves the local acceleration of low carbon energy production.

And the county's natural assets will be protected as part of the final and sixth strategy.

Since the Industrial Revolution, human activities have released significant greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere,

changing the Earth's climate.

McKay said the planet's average temperature has already climbed a little more than a degree since pre-industrial times.

"We're already experiencing the impacts of climate change and therefore we must adapt," she said.

Many regions of the planet this summer have set heat records.

There are ways by which people can mitigate the impacts of global warming. To avoid the worst impacts of climate change, McKay said greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced. "There are many synergies between mitigation and adaptation," she said.

Trees act as carbon sinks which help to mitigate climate change, and they absorb storm water runoff to contribute to adaptation.

"Haliburton County is rich with wetlands and forests that are natural climate solutions that need to be preserved," McKay said.

The solutions to climate change already exist. They just need to be made more accessible, she said.

As a result of climate change, people are experiencing hotter temperatures, more extreme storms, and crazier rain flooding events.

The effects of climate change have even been dubbed to be a public health concern in Ontario.

McKay said most greenhouse gases are caused by transportation and buildings.

Governments on the federal and provincial levels have committed to targets aimed at eliminating emissions to net zero by 2050.

McKay said the county is looking to re-establish the climate action advisory

group comprised of representatives of the four lower tier municipalities.

"The intergovernmental panel on climate change released an important report earlier this year that emphasized that we need deep and immediate greenhouse gas reductions across all sectors this decade," McKay said.

"This really is the most critical time to take action to avoid the worst impacts of climate change."

Mayor Dave Burton suggested the township pull its representative on the advisory group from the public.

"It's up to council," McKay said.



Dramedy in the Pavilion

Highlands Summer Festival's production of 4000 Miles kicked off on July 17 at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton for eight performances starring Robin Clipsham, left, and Alex Smith. /TIM YANO Special to the Echo

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Camp Day kicks off July 19

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Staff Reporter

While Tim Horton's may be an internationally recognized organization, it's important to remember that the local branches are run by local people, and support local causes along the way. That's why Audrina Upton, the manager for the Haliburton Tim Horton's, wants everyone to come out to Camp Day on July 19. "This is something that's just so home-based," she said.

Camp Days are run across the country, with proceeds from the day going to support local kids to attend Tim Horton's summer camps free of charge. "Each store for each town gets to send a child to camp for 10 days," said Upton, "and this is something that I am just so passionate about."

While Camp Day is offered across the country, Upton has put her own spin on it in an attempt to raise more money. Every night before Camp Day, herself and her children camp out in the shop, calling it "Camping for a Cause" as a fundraising effort.

Upton also reaches out to local businesses and organizations to offer prizes for a silent auction that is held on July 19 from 8 until 5. There are currently over 15 sponsors and zonations for the auction. She noted that all donations from the day are eligible for a tax receipt.

On top of the silent auction, Upton also

“

This is just so important, and so great for the kids. Let's try to make it that much better for them.

— Audrina Upton, Haliburton Tim Horton's manager

has carnival-style games, such as "Timbit Plinko" and face painting, s'mores on a stick, a barbecue, and gift bags available. "It's all about the kids," she said, "I just want all the kids to participate and have fun."

If games and activities aren't your cup of coffee, then Upton shared that folks who purchase from the counter on Camp Day can also receive a coffee donation badge, which is a cash contribution, also eligible for a tax receipt.

Camp Day will be held all day at Tim Horton's in both Minden and Haliburton. Last year, Audrina shared that they raised \$3000.20, and it's her goal to make even more this year for the cause. "This is just so important, and so great for the kids," she said, "let's try to make it that much better for them."



Ruben Esguerra will be Razzamataz's next performer at Head Lake Park in Haliburton on Saturday, July 22. /Submitted

Razzamataz gets loud

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Staff Reporter

Razzamataz is at it again. This Saturday, July 22, the children's theatre group are partnering with Dance Happens Here Haliburton (DH3) and the Rails End Gallery to welcome Juno-nominated musician Ruben Esguerra to the area.

Beyond being a talented, award-winning musician, Esguerra is also an arts educator who is dedicated to sharing knowledge from the Caribbean coast of Columbia. That's why Razzamataz has split the day into two parts: a workshop followed by a concert on July 22. "The drum workshop will be great for any kids interested in a hands-on and interactive learning experience including percussion instruments and singing," said Nicole Stewart, the chair for Razz. "The work-

shop will also teach kids a bit of the history of Afro-Indigenous Colombian music and how it continues to be revitalized."

Designed for kids ages 5 to 13, the workshop will be held at the Haliburton United Church from 10 to 11 a.m., with pre-registration required to keep track of numbers.

Following the workshop, all are welcome to join Esguerra in Head Lake Park from 1 until 2 p.m., where he will dazzle concert-goers with music from around the world. "You can expect a melding of music and instruments from North and South including the kuisi bensi, an Indigenous-Colombian flute, the hand drum from Turtle Island, and turntables, as used in Hip hop culture in the Bronx, NY," said Stewart.

For more information and to register for the workshop, visit www.razzamataz.ca

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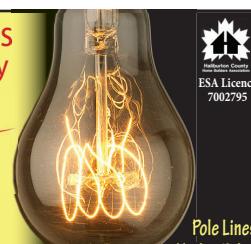
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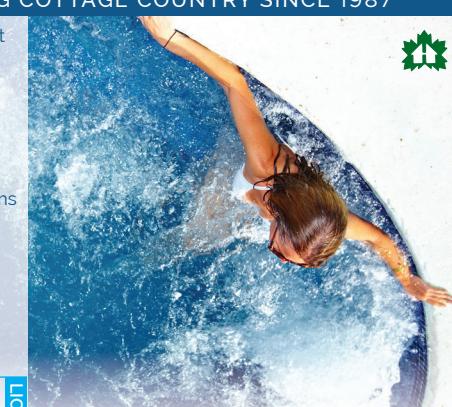
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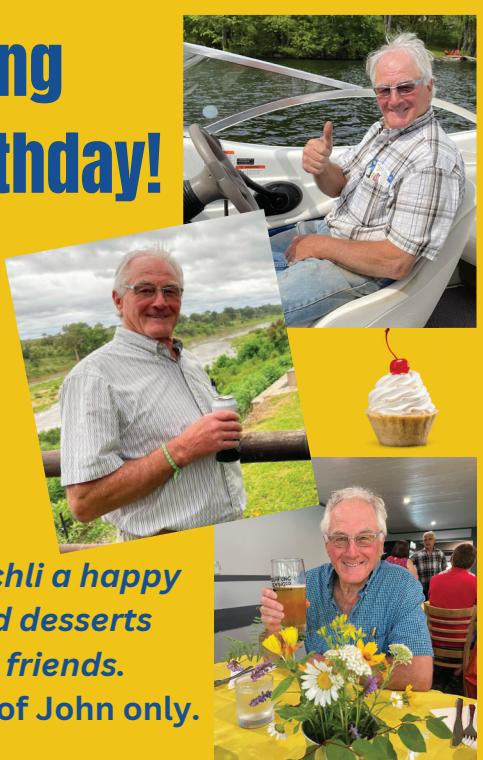
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650 OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of Barbara Anne Morrow née Lyon

*July 21, 1932 – May 30, 2023
At North York General Hospital, on the morning of May 30th Barbara left this mortal coil.*

Predeceased by her husband; Albert Edwin Morrow. Dear Mother of Penelope, Robb (Sherry) and James (Kathleen). Cherished Nana to Celeste, Grandmother to Jacob (Kelly), Katherine (Sylvain), Emma and Nana to Jack. GG to Benjamin and Joshua.

In her lifetime Barb wore many hats; that of wife and mother, a dear nana, grandmother and GG. Nursie to those affiliated with the Haliburton Scout Reserve. A friend, confidante and the driving force behind the Haliburton Red Hats.

Barb was born in Toronto, spent her early years in Winnipeg, and then the family moved to Brantford. Wanting to pursue a career in the arts, parental encouragement directed her energies elsewhere.

Barb became a graduate from the school of nursing at Brantford General Hospital in 1954. Barbara's nursing career started in the United States. Looking back at her stint in Boston, she often told the story of subbing in for a Private Duty shift, caring for one of the Kennedy brothers, he with the bad back, and how she took the steak knife from his dinner tray as a souvenir!

Public Health nursing is where Barb and Ab met; he was teaching Industrial Arts in North York. Barb would often say that their romance brought with it a readymade daughter and a new vacuum, Ab would retort that he thought he got the best of the deal! As their family grew, Barb and Ab moved to Kettleby Village in King Township, allowing room for Robb and James to explore the countryside untethered by big city restraints.

Barb's career spanned the spectrum from infants, emergency, psychiatry to elders in Long Term Care. But the highlight was time spent at Haliburton Scout Reserve, where wilderness camping provided opportunities to expand her nursing skillset and to develop lifelong friendships for both Ab and Barb.

Thirty summers spent in the Highlands determined the location for their retirement, and while leaving their home in Kettleby Village was heart wrenching, the call of the loon won out.

Plagued with health challenges throughout the majority of her lifetime, Barb mastered computer technology early and maintained online Sorority connections with her Beta Sigma Phi Sisters when her body restricted live attendance at social events.

Barbara will be dearly missed by all who loved her, including cousins in Canada, family in the UK and South Africa, and longtime friends in the Netherlands.

Cremation has taken place. Interment to be held on Saturday July 22, 2023 at 2 o'clock, Kettleby Village Cemetery, all are welcome.

At her request, a formal reception is not planned.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations may be given in Barbara's memory to Autism Society Ontario or to the Community Food Centres Canada and can be arranged on-line at www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com



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INSIDE
THIS WEEK:

CROWDS GO MAD

Haliburton's main street took on a carnival atmosphere on Friday night

HOCKEY NIGHT

Saturday night game raises funds for Canada's champion amputee team

THE FUN CONTINUES

The long weekend's over but the good times live on. See County Life for details

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THE ECHO

HALIBURTON COUNTY

Tuesday, August 5, 2003
Vol. 120 No. 34
\$1 including GST

Local crews join battle against BC fire

ANDY LLOYD
Staff Reporter

Firefighters from the Ministry of Natural Resources fire base in Haliburton are among hundreds from across the country heading to British Columbia to battle three massive forest fires threatening thousands of homes.

More than 10,000 people have already fled their homes in southern B.C. On their heels are three fires burning around the city of Kamloops. The largest, called the McLure-Barriere fire, is about 50 kilometres north of the city and covers 84 square kilometres. It has grown by 30 per cent since Saturday and two other fires, Strawberry Hill and Cedar Hill, continue to burn in the area.

Four three-person crews from the Haliburton MNR fire base are in B.C. to help. Two of the crews have been there for 18 days and another two left on Saturday.

Ed Cyr, the fire operations supervisor in Haliburton, says he anticipates sending several more crews later this week.

The firefighters work on a 19-day rotation. They spend two

See Haliburton page 14

DARREN LIM/ECHO
Let 'er roll
Competitors in the Kennisis Lake log rolling contest on Saturday



lose their footing to the delight of the crowd lining the shore at the marina. Throughout this week's Echo we have coverage of lake regattas.

Policing boundaries to stay intact

SHERYL LOUCKS
Staff Reporter

Highlands East council and staff did not know that the Ontario Provincial Police had turned down the municipality's request to consider a boundary change until a letter from the OPP surfaced at a Minden Hills council meeting first.

A letter dated July 9 written by Dave Wall, OPP chief superintendent and regional commander for the central region, was sent to Minden Hills deputy clerk Twyla Nicholson, who received it July 16. The letter was in response to a written objection from Minden Hills of

Highlands East's request to change the policing boundaries in Haliburton County.

"I advised Staff Sergeant Bob Walli [Minden OPP detachment commander] that I am not prepared to proceed with jurisdictional changes that would alter the current delivery of policing services in Haliburton County," Wall writes. "My decision is based on a number of facts and concerns raised in an internal review my office completed in response to Highlands East's request."

Wall writes that he is hoping to meet with Highlands East council in the "near future" to continue further discussions

about the matter.

The Echo contacted Highlands East Reeve Keith Tallman, Deputy Reeve Chuck Viner and Highlands East staff on Aug. 1, 22 days after the letter is dated. None of them were aware of Wall's decision nor of any proposed meeting time to discuss it.

Both Wall and Walli were on vacation up to press time and unavailable for comment on the issue.

Jim McMahon, Minden Hills deputy-reeve and chair of the Community Policing Advisory Committee, says the OPP is planning to make a delegation to county council to discuss the issue in August. The next CPAC

committee meeting will be held in September. CPAC has not met to discuss the issue since Highlands East made the request.

Viner, who represents HE on CPAC, says he was not surprised to hear about the letter since he had heard through the grapevine what the decision would be. However, he did say it would make more sense for Wall to meet with his council or CPAC than county council.

"I would like to see all [representatives from the county's four municipalities] sit at CPAC and come to a consensus. I wish we could talk it out and find a

See OPP page 14

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